



General Assembly

## ***Amendment***

***January Session, 2017***

**LCO No. 8256**



Offered by:

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REP. STANESKI, 119<sup>th</sup> Dist.  
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To: Subst. House Bill No. **7053**

File No. 321

Cal. No. 236

### ***"AN ACT IMPLEMENTING THE GOVERNOR'S BUDGET RECOMMENDATIONS CONCERNING HIGHER EDUCATION."***

1 Strike everything after the enacting clause and substitute the  
2 following in lieu thereof:

3 "Section 1. (NEW) (*Effective January 1, 2018*) (a) The Office of Higher  
4 Education shall publish on its Internet web site, links to the existing  
5 transfer and articulation programs developed between the Connecticut  
6 state colleges and universities and The University of Connecticut. Each  
7 institution within the jurisdiction of the constituent units shall include  
8 on its Internet web site a link to the Officer of Higher Education's  
9 Internet web site and provide information regarding such transfer and  
10 articulation programs.

11 (b) The Connecticut State Colleges and Universities shall provide  
12 any student who has been accepted for admission to an institution

13 within the jurisdiction of the regional community-technical college  
14 system with information about the existing transfer and articulation  
15 programs between the regional technical-community colleges and  
16 four-year public institutions of higher education.

17 (c) Not later than January 1, 2018, and annually thereafter, the  
18 Connecticut State Colleges and Universities and The University of  
19 Connecticut shall each submit a report, in accordance with the  
20 provisions of section 11-4a of the general statutes, to the joint standing  
21 committee of the General Assembly having cognizance of matters  
22 relating to higher education. Such report shall analyze the existing  
23 transfer and articulation programs utilized by students who attended a  
24 regional technical-community college and who transferred to a four-  
25 year public institution of higher education, including, but not limited  
26 to, (1) enrollment of transfer students, (2) the average number of  
27 credits accepted by the four-year public institution, and (3) graduation  
28 rates of transfer students.

29 Sec. 2. Section 10a-11b of the general statutes is repealed and the  
30 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective January 1, 2018*):

31 (a) There is established a Planning Commission for Higher  
32 Education to develop and ensure the implementation of a higher  
33 education strategic master plan [for higher education] in Connecticut.

34 (1) The commission shall consist of the following voting members:  
35 (A) [Two members appointed by the speaker of the House of  
36 Representatives, who shall have experience as former administrators  
37 or faculty members in independent institutions of higher education in  
38 this state; (B) two members appointed by the president pro tempore of  
39 the Senate, one of whom shall be a former administrator or faculty  
40 member of a regional community-technical college and one of whom  
41 shall be a former administrator or faculty member of The University of  
42 Connecticut; (C) two members appointed by the majority leader of the  
43 House of Representatives, one of whom shall be a former  
44 administrator or faculty member of a state university in the

45 Connecticut State University System and one of whom shall be a  
46 former administrator or faculty member of Charter Oak State College;  
47 (D) two members appointed by the majority leader of the Senate, one  
48 of whom shall have experience in the field of arts and culture and one  
49 of whom shall have experience in the field of health care; (E) two  
50 members appointed by the minority leader of the House of  
51 Representatives who shall have knowledge and expertise in science  
52 and technology; (F) two members appointed by the minority leader of  
53 the Senate who shall represent state-wide business organizations; and  
54 (G) five members appointed by the Governor, one of whom shall  
55 represent a nonprofit education foundation, one of whom shall have  
56 experience in university research and its commercial application and  
57 one of whom shall have experience in the field of education from  
58 prekindergarten to grade twelve, inclusive.] The president of the  
59 Connecticut State Colleges and Universities, the president of The  
60 University of Connecticut, or their designees from the Board of  
61 Regents and Board of Trustees; (B) the provost of the Connecticut State  
62 Colleges and Universities and the provost of The University of  
63 Connecticut; (C) the chair of the Board of Regents for the Connecticut  
64 State Colleges and Universities, and the Board of Trustees for The  
65 University of Connecticut, or the chairs' designees; (D) the president,  
66 vice president or chair of the board of a large independent institution  
67 of higher education in the state, to be selected by the president of the  
68 Connecticut Conference of Independent Colleges; (E) the president,  
69 vice president or chair of the board of a small independent institution  
70 of higher education in the state, to be selected by the president of the  
71 Connecticut Conference of Independent Colleges; (F) a representative  
72 from a private occupational school, to be selected by the Commissioner  
73 of Education; (G) a teaching faculty representative from the  
74 Connecticut State Universities, to be selected by the president of the  
75 Connecticut State Colleges and Universities; (H) a teaching faculty  
76 representative from the regional community-technical colleges, to be  
77 selected by the president of the Connecticut State Colleges and  
78 Universities; (I) a teaching faculty representative from The University  
79 of Connecticut, to be selected by the president of The University of

80 Connecticut; (J) a teaching faculty representative from a private  
81 occupational school in the state, to be selected by the Commissioner of  
82 Education; (K) one member appointed by the president pro tempore of  
83 the Senate, who shall be a representative of a large manufacturing  
84 employer in the state; (L) one member appointed by the speaker of the  
85 House of Representatives, who shall be a representative of a large  
86 financial or insurance services employer in the state; (M) one member  
87 appointed by the majority leader of the Senate, who shall be a  
88 representative of an information technology or digital media employer  
89 in the state; (N) one member appointed by the minority leader of the  
90 Senate, who shall be a representative of a small business employer in  
91 the state; (O) one member appointed by the majority leader of the  
92 House of Representatives, who shall be a representative of a health  
93 care employer in the state; and (P) one member appointed by the  
94 minority leader of the House of Representatives, who shall be a  
95 representative of a small business employer in the state. The  
96 commission membership shall, where feasible, reflect the state's  
97 geographic, racial and ethnic diversity.

98 (2) The following persons shall serve as ex-officio nonvoting  
99 members on the commission: (A) The [president of the Connecticut  
100 State Colleges and Universities, the] Commissioner of Education, the  
101 Commissioner of Economic and Community Development and the  
102 Labor Commissioner, or their designees; (B) [the chairpersons of the  
103 boards of trustees and the chief executive officers of each constituent  
104 unit of the state system of higher education, or their designees; (C) the  
105 chairperson of the board and] the president of the Connecticut  
106 Conference of Independent Colleges, or [their designees; (D)] the  
107 president's designee; (C) a member of the State Board of Education, as  
108 designated by the chairperson of the state board; (D) the  
109 superintendent of the technical high school system, or the  
110 superintendent's designee; (E) the chief executive officer of  
111 Connecticut Innovations, Incorporated, or the chief executive officer's  
112 designee; (F) the director of the Office of Higher Education; (G) the  
113 chairpersons and ranking members of the joint standing committee of

114 the General Assembly having cognizance of matters relating to higher  
115 education and employment advancement; and [(E)] (H) the Secretary  
116 of the Office of Policy and Management, or the secretary's designee.

117 (3) The Governor shall appoint the chairperson from among the  
118 commission's members. The commission shall elect a [chairperson]  
119 vice-chairperson at its first meeting. Any vacancies shall be filled by  
120 the appointing authority. The term of each appointed member of the  
121 commission shall be three years from the date of appointment. The  
122 commission members shall serve without compensation. [except for  
123 necessary expenses incurred in the performance of their duties.] The  
124 commission may seek the advice and participation of any person,  
125 organization or state or federal agency it deems necessary to carry out  
126 the provisions of this section. The commission may, within available  
127 appropriations, retain consultants to assist in carrying out its duties.  
128 The commission may receive funds from any public or private sources  
129 to carry out its activities. The commission shall be within the Office of  
130 Higher Education and shall be responsible for implementing any  
131 policies developed by the commission.

132 (b) [In accordance with subdivision (2) of subsection (a) of section  
133 10a-6, the] The commission shall develop and ensure the  
134 implementation of a higher education strategic master plan that:

135 (1) Examines the impact of demographic, workforce and education  
136 trends on higher education in the state;

137 (2) (A) Establishes numerical goals for 2015, [and] 2020 and 2025 to  
138 increase the number of people earning a bachelor's degree, associate  
139 degree or certificate, increases the number of people successfully  
140 completing coursework at the community college level and the  
141 number of people entering the state's workforce and eliminates the  
142 postsecondary achievement gap between minority students and the  
143 general student population, and (B) includes specific strategies for  
144 meeting such goals, as well as strategies for meeting the goals  
145 pursuant to [subdivision (2) of] subsection [(a)] (b) of section 10a-6 and

146 section 10a-11c;

147 (3) Examines and recommends changes to funding policies,  
148 practices and accountability in order to (A) align policies and practices  
149 with the goals set forth in subsection (b) of section 10a-6 [ including an  
150 evaluation of the use of strategic and performance-based incentive  
151 funding] and section 10a-11c; (B) determine how the constituent units  
152 shall annually report to the General Assembly and the public in a  
153 transparent and thorough manner regarding each constituent unit's  
154 expenditures, staffing and state support, including the state  
155 appropriation, personnel expenses, personnel fringe benefits, capital  
156 improvement bonds and financial aid to students; and (C) improve  
157 coordination of appropriation, tuition and financial aid and seek ways  
158 to maximize funding through federal and private grants; and

159 (4) Recommends ways in which each constituent unit of the state  
160 system of higher education and independent institution of higher  
161 education in the state can, in a manner consistent with such  
162 institution's mission, expand such institution's role in advancing the  
163 state's economic growth.

164 (c) In developing the higher education strategic master plan, the  
165 commission shall review the plans pursuant to sections 10a-6 and 10a-  
166 11. In addition, the commission may consider the following: (1)  
167 Establishing incentives for institutional performance and productivity;  
168 (2) increasing financial aid incentive programs, especially in workforce  
169 shortage areas and for minority students; (3) implementing mandatory  
170 college preparatory curricula in high schools and aligning such  
171 curricula with curricula in institutions of higher education; (4) seeking  
172 partnerships with the business community and public institutions of  
173 higher education to serve the needs of workforce retraining that may  
174 include bridge programs in which businesses work directly with  
175 higher education institutions to move students into identified  
176 workforce shortage areas; (5) establishing collaborative partnerships  
177 between public high schools and institutions of higher education; (6)  
178 implementing programs in high school to assist high school students

179 seeking a college track or alternative pathways for post-secondary  
180 education, such as vocational and technical opportunities; (7)  
181 developing policies to promote and measure retention and graduation  
182 rates of students, including graduation rates for students who have  
183 transferred among two or more constituent units or public institutions  
184 of higher education; (8) developing policies to promote the Transfer  
185 and Articulation program and the Guaranteed Admission program  
186 state wide; (9) addressing the educational needs of minority students  
187 and nontraditional students, including, but not limited to, part-time  
188 students, incumbent workers, adult learners, former inmates and  
189 immigrants, in order to increase enrollment and retention in  
190 institutions of higher education; and [(9)] (10) addressing the  
191 affordability of tuition at institutions of higher education and the issue  
192 of increased student indebtedness.

193 (d) Not later than June 1, 2014, the commission shall submit a  
194 preliminary report on the development of the higher education  
195 strategic master plan and, not later than September 1, 2014, the  
196 commission shall submit the higher education strategic master plan,  
197 including specific goals and benchmarks for the years ending 2020 and  
198 2025, together with any recommendations for appropriate legislation  
199 and funding to the Governor and the joint standing committees of the  
200 General Assembly having cognizance of matters relating to higher  
201 education and employment advancement, education, commerce, labor  
202 and appropriations, in accordance with the provisions of section 11-4a.

203 (e) Not later than January 1, 2016, and annually thereafter, the  
204 commission shall submit a report to the Governor and the joint  
205 standing committees of the General Assembly having cognizance of  
206 matters relating to higher education and employment advancement,  
207 education, commerce, labor and appropriations, in accordance with  
208 section 11-4a, on the implementation of the plan and progress made  
209 toward achieving the goals specified in the plan. The commission may  
210 periodically suggest changes to the goals as necessary.

211 (f) Not later than January 1, [2016] 2018, for purposes of

212 implementing the higher education strategic master plan pursuant to  
213 subsection (b) of this section, the commission, in collaboration with the  
214 Office of Policy and Management, shall establish [working groups and  
215 consult with any existing working groups, commissions or task forces  
216 that may investigate and offer guidance on specific objectives  
217 identified by the commission or the office, including, but not limited  
218 to, outcomes-based financing and workforce development, the  
219 examination of which by the commission are essential to achieving the  
220 goals specified in the plan.] two standing subcommittees and may  
221 establish any working groups necessary to supplement the work of the  
222 subcommittees or work. The chairperson and vice-chairperson of the  
223 commission shall appoint the members of the standing subcommittees  
224 and working groups, and may appoint members to such standing  
225 subcommittees and working groups who are not members of the  
226 commission.

227 (1) One standing subcommittee shall focus on data, metrics and  
228 accountability, and build upon the work of the Higher Education  
229 Coordinating Council and Preschool through 20 and Workforce  
230 Information Network in its measures and data. Such measures shall be  
231 used to assess the progress of each public institution of higher  
232 education toward meeting the commission's goals. The subcommittee  
233 shall collaborate with the Labor Department to (A) produce periodic  
234 reports, capable of being sorted by student age, on the employment  
235 status, job retention and earnings of students enrolled in academic and  
236 noncredit vocational courses and programs, both prior to enrollment  
237 and after completion of such courses and programs, who leave the  
238 constituent units upon graduation or otherwise, and (B) develop an  
239 annual affordability index for public higher education that is based on  
240 state-wide median family income. The subcommittee shall submit  
241 annual reports to the commission and the constituent units.

242 (2) One standing subcommittee shall focus on the higher education  
243 strategic master plan, analyzing the plans submitted since 2014 and  
244 making recommendations to the commission on key areas. The  
245 commission may recommend key areas of focus each year and require



246 the standing subcommittee to report to the commission on such key  
 247 areas.

248 (g) The commission may appoint advisory committees with  
 249 representatives from public and independent institutions of higher  
 250 education to study methods and proposals for coordinating efforts of  
 251 the public institutions of higher education and the independent  
 252 institutions of higher education to implement the goals identified in  
 253 section 10a-11c.

254 (h) The commission may review its goals and plans and determine  
 255 how best to align its work with the work of the Higher Education  
 256 Innovation and Entrepreneurship Working Group and the Higher  
 257 Education Entrepreneurship Advisory Committee, established  
 258 pursuant to sections 32-39s and 32-39t.

259 Sec. 3. (NEW) (*Effective January 1, 2018*) The Office of Higher  
 260 Education may solicit and accept for use any gift of money or property  
 261 made by will or otherwise, and any grant of money, services or  
 262 property from the federal government, the state or any political  
 263 subdivision thereof or any private source for the purpose of  
 264 administering the Planning Commission of Higher Education. Such  
 265 funds shall be deposited in an account to be known as the "Planning  
 266 Commission for Higher Education Fund" which shall be a separate,  
 267 nonlapsing account within the General Fund."

This act shall take effect as follows and shall amend the following sections:		
Section 1	<i>January 1, 2018</i>	New section
Sec. 2	<i>January 1, 2018</i>	10a-11b
Sec. 3	<i>January 1, 2018</i>	New section